



# King James's School

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*Incorporating  
King James's  
Grammar School  
Founded 1616*

Headteacher  
Deputy Head  
Deputy Head  
Acting Deputy Head  
Chair of Governors

Mr C A Sugden  
Dr C A Walton  
Mr I W Simpson  
Mr S K Giles  
Mr D B James

13 July 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware your child has recently sat their final GCSE Maths modular exam and has now completed the GCSE Maths course. The decision was taken two years ago to begin GCSE Maths in Year 9 to provide flexibility for your child and to ensure they achieve the best possible maths GCSE grade they can by the end of Year 11.

All pupils will continue next year with three periods of maths lessons per week, though the path they take will depend on the GCSE result they achieve in August. Pupils who achieve their target grade will work towards an additional qualification in either GCSE Statistics or an iGCSE in Further Maths. The GCSE Statistics course is suitable for all pupils and builds on the statistics elements of the GCSE Maths course allowing pupils to gain an additional GCSE in one year. The Statistics course will teach pupils skills that they will need for many future qualifications and A-level subjects and is designed to provide pupils with a critical appreciation of statistics that is increasingly important in a wide variety of careers and in every day life.

Pupils achieving an A or A\* in their GCSE Maths (or a grade B if they are interested in taking A-Level Maths in Year 12), will be taking a Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths (iGCSE). This will be offered as a one year course designed to prepare pupils for A-Level Maths by introducing students to AS topics, without infringing upon the AS level content and by enhancing the higher order mathematical skills developed in their GCSE Maths course.

Pupils that have not met their GCSE target will be given the opportunity to re-sit the Maths GCSE as a one-year linear course which they will complete at the end of Year 11. To ensure all pupils are given the opportunity to achieve their potential we will support any pupil who wishes to re-sit their GCSE Maths, irrespective of whether or not they met their target grade.

At present all pupils are working on a unit of Probability work. This is a topic required for all pathways so that lesson time is being effectively used regardless of the route your child takes. Most pupils will continue to be taught by their Year 10 teacher until September though in a few cases it has been necessary to change teachers for the start of the new academic year due to timetabling constraints.

I hope this clarifies the situation with regard to your child's maths teaching in Year 11. I will write to you again in September to confirm the specific arrangements for your child in light of their GCSE result.

Yours faithfully

**Mr P Muskett**  
Head of Mathematics

